

COUNCIL BRIEFS

May 19, 2017

Annual Police Awards: The West Hartford Police Department held its awards ceremony today, May 19, 2017, recognizing the exceptional efforts of its police force and residents who assisted. Fifty-one police officers and five residents were honored. Five members of the department were recognized for their length of service. The ceremony is held each year during National Police Week.

DPW Open House: On May, 20, 9AM-1PM, DPW will hold its open house at 17 Brixton St. Kids can sit in big trucks and adults can shred confidential papers and get questions answered.

Memorial Day events: The annual Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 29 at 10:00 AM. A memorial ceremony immediately follows the parade. Please note, there is no on-street parking along the parade route.

On Saturday, May 27 at 8:30 AM, flags will be installed on the graves of 1200 veterans at Fairview Cemetery. Volunteers are needed.

Trash Delay: Due to the Memorial Day holiday, the collection of trash, B-week recyclables and bulky waste during the week of May 29 to June 3 will be one day late after the Monday holiday.

Monday's collections will be done on Tuesday, Tuesday's collection on Wednesday with each remaining day of the week being one day later than normal. For more information, please call Paine's, Inc. (860) 844-3000 or check the website, www.PainesInc.com.

Distracted driving campaign yields 715 violations: The Police Department concluded the first part of the 2017 campaign against distracted driving on April 30, 2017. West Hartford officers issued 715 distracted driving infractions to motorists and cited 41 violations which included seat belt violations, speeding, driving under suspension, and registration violations. There was one DWI arrest made on April 13 and two infractions for possession of marijuana on April 11 and 18 as the result of

stopping a motorist for a distracted driving violation. There was a stolen car recovered on April 6 by officers on the distracted driving detail which resulted in 2 arrests.

Under Connecticut's cell phone and texting law, fines range from \$150 for a first offense, \$300 for a second violation, and \$500 for subsequent violations.

Kudos to West Hartford! Recently West Hartford has been the beneficiary of several notable rankings:

- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Conard High School #309 in the country for "Best High Schools in the Nation" and #6 in Connecticut
- LendEDU compiled its "Best Cities for a Teaching Career Report," ranking the top 250 cities in the U.S. West Hartford was ranked 97th and sixth in Connecticut
- *Money* magazine announced the top 50 cities for new college grads (cheap rent and good jobs) and coming in at #3 was Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford.

One Book, One Town titles announced: The One Book, One Town committee selects a book each year to stimulate conversation around a core theme aimed at raising community awareness, understanding and acceptance. The 2017-2018 book choices focus on blindness and the accomplishments of persons with disabilities. The central characters of both books sends a clear message that the disability does not define the person.

The 2017-2018 titles are "*Thunder Dog: A True Story of a Blind Man, His Guide Dog and the Triumph of Trust at Ground Zero*" by Michael Hingson, and the elementary school companion book, *Keep Your Ear on the Ball* by Genevieve Petrillo. Add these books to your summer reading list! [#1Book1Town](#)

Ronald F. Van Winkle
Town Manager